GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
DEFENCE
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2905
ANSWERED ON:15.03.2001
PURCHASE OF SECOND HAND MIRAGE
T.M. SELVAGANAPATHI

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government bought ten Mirage 2000-H from France as second hand while Jordan bought such Mirage brand new;

(b) the reasons as to why the Government had negotiated for second hand aircraft of a 20 years old version at first hand prices;

(c) whether the French Government have refused to entertain India`s request for an upgraded version of the aircraft; and;

(d) if so, the reasons therefor and the remedial steps proposed to be taken in this regard?

Answer

MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES)

(a) & (b): The Government has contracted purchase of 10 Mirage 2000 H/TH aircraft from France in September, 2000.These aircraft are not old aircraft but new Mirage 2000 H/TH aircraft.A few components of the aircrafts were manufactured earlier but are new and never used. The aircrafts are currently under manufacture in France and deliveries will start two and a half years from now.

(c) & (d): The Government has not approached the French Government for an upgraded version of the Mirage 2000-H/TH to maintain commonality with the existing fleet.